

ABSTRACT

Compositions comprising a polymeric liquid and a viscosity modifier comprising a solid material active in lowering the viscosity of the polymeric liquid. The solid material has a particle size of about 75 microns equivalent spherical diameter and is present at a concentration of up to about 2% by weight of the composition. The solid material can act by lowering the viscosity of the polymeric liquid at stress amplitudes and strain rates where a linear relation exists between stress amplitude and strain rate, and by lowering the viscosity of the polymeric liquid at stress amplitudes and strain rates approaching and exceeding the critical stress value of the polymeric liquid. Methods of preparing and using the compositions, and methods of selecting the solid material, are presented.